

Urban District of Heckmondwike.

Medical Officer's

ANNUAL

REPORT

FOR

1928

**HECKMONDWIKE :
ILLINGWORTH BROS., PRINTERS, MARKET PLACE.**



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OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D. (Durh.) D.P.H. (Camb.)

Of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.

Fellow, and Member of Council, Society of Medical Officers of Health.

Past President, Yorkshire Branch, Society of Medical Officers of Health.

Hon. Member, Cambridge University Medical Society.

Fellow of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Member of the Board of Examiners.

Hon. Life Member and Examiner, St. John Ambulance Association.

&c.

HECKMONDWIKE :

ILLINGWORTH BROS., PRINTERS, MARKET PLACE.

This Annual Report is compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 939 (England) issued by the Ministry of Health, 13th December, 1928, which requires that it be an Ordinary Report, that is, a Report of a more simple character than the full Survey Report which the Medical Officer of Health is asked to prepare every five years.

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1928.

Area of Urban District (in acres)	696
Civil Population (Registrar General's Estimate) ...	8772
Population at Census of 1921 (Males 4180, Females 4843)	9023
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	2396
Total Private Families at Census 1921	2343
Census Population living more than 2 persons per room	17·8%
Number of Inhabited Houses (1928)	2504
Average number of persons per house	3·5
Density of Population per acre	12·6
Number of Births (Males 82, Females 56) Total	138
Illegitimate Births (Males 4, Females 9) Total	13
Birth Rate per 1,000 living	15·7
Illegitimate Birth Rate per 1,000 Births Registered ...	94·2
Number of Deaths, including residents who died away from Heckmondwike (Males 49, Females 69) Total	118
Net Death Rate per 1,000 living	13·4
Number of Still Births	5
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births Registered ...	21·7
Illegitimate Death Rate per 1,000 Births Registered ...	76·9
Tuberculosis Death Rate (all forms) per 1,000	0·3
Phthisis Death Rate per 1,000	0·2
Zymotic Death Rate per 1,000	Nil
Respiratory Diseases Death Rate per 1,000 (Excluding Phthisis)	1·7
Cancer Death Rate per 1,000	2·05
Cases of Infectious Disease notified (excluding Tuberculosis)	38
Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified	2
Cases of other forms of Tuberculosis notified	2
Number of Inquests	4
Rateable Value	£48907
Rate of 1d. in £ produces approx.	£190
Rainfall in inches	30·6
Number of Wet Days	191
Parliamentary Voters	6500
Local Government Voters	4576
Poor Law Relief Distributed	£898 5s. 0d.



VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTH and DEATH RATES SINCE 1900
IN HECKMONDWIKE with comparative 1928
figures for the rest of the Country (Registrar
General).

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year. (Registrar General's Figures).	BIRTHS REGISTERED.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.	
		Number	Rate per 1000	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number.	Rate per 1000
Yearly Averages 1900-09	9,613	190	19·8	29	152	160	16·6
1910-19	9,064	169	18·5	19	109	148	16·8
1920-28	8,984	163	18·1	13	76	136	15·1
Year 1928	8,772	138	15·7	3	21	118	13·4
1928—England and Wales			16·7		65		11·7
107 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London			16·9		70		11·6
156 Smaller Towns			16·6		60		10·6
London			15·9		67		11·6

Births, Leg. 125 } Total 138.
Illeg. 13 }

M. F. Birth } 15·7.
82 56 Rate }

Deaths 118. Death Rate 13·4.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year—

Leg. 2; Illeg. 1; Total 3.

Still-Births, 5.

Number of women }
dying in, or in con- } from Sepsis, Nil.
sequence of child } from other causes, 1.
birth }

Deaths from Measles (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years), Nil.

**Causes of Death in Heckmondwike during ten years 1919 to 1928
and the year 1928.**

	1919 to 1927	1928		1919 to 1927	1928
			Brought forward ...	565	69
Enteric Fever ...	1		Arterio-Sclerosis ...	30	4
Small-pox ...			Bronchitis ...	102	7
Measles ...	7		Pneumonia (all forms) ...	90	6
Scarlet Fever ...	2		Other Respiratory Diseases	12	2
Whooping Cough ...	5		Ulcer of Stomach or Duo-		
Diphtheria ...	2		denum ..	9	1
Influenza ...	52	2	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	6	
Encephalitis Lethargica ...		1	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	6	
Meningococcal Meningitis ..			Cirrhosis of Liver ...	7	
Tuberculosis of Respiratory			Acute and Chronic Nephritis	48	3
System ...	70	2	Puerperal Sepsis ...	2	
Other Tuberculous Diseases	16	1	Other Accidents and Diseases		
Cancer, Malignant Disease	120	18	of Pregnancy and Parturition	1	1
Rheumatic Fever ...	5		Congenital Debility and Mal-		
Diabetes ...	12	1	formation, Premature Birth	60	
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	88	18	Suicide ...	9	
Heart Disease ...	185	26	Deaths from Violence ...	30	4
			Other Defined Diseases ...	277	21
			Causes ill-defined or unknown	2	
Carried forward ...	565	69	Totals...	1256	118

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which received or required more comment than is made in this Report. The town is entirely an industrial area, the occupations of the inhabitants being described in previous reports.

A certain amount of material appears annually in these reports which is similar to previous years. Whilst locally this may appear superfluous it has to be furnished on each occasion for the use of the Ministry of Health, and may be of service to other bodies or individuals elsewhere.

Population. The Registrar-General estimates the population at the middle of 1928 to be 8,772, which is a decrease of 122 upon that of the previous year. There were 138 births and 118 deaths in Heckmondwike during 1928, giving a natural increase of population of 20, yet the Registrar-General estimates a decrease of 122. As his figures are official, they must be accepted and upon them the various rates in this report are calculated. In my opinion, there is doubt as to the accuracy of the figures for population.

Births registered during 1928 numbered 138, giving a rate of 15·7 per 1,000 of population. The rate for the County Boroughs is 16·9 and, as previously explained, this is the true rate to compare Heckmondwike with, for, although the town is not a County Borough, all the conditions of life for purposes of calculating vital statistics are precisely the same as in County Boroughs.

Under the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1926, the registration of Still-Births became operative on July 1st, 1927. During 1928 the Registrar has reported five.

Deaths numbered 118, being 49 males and 69 females, which is a considerable improvement upon the previous year, when the number was 154.

Decreases to the extent of the figures given occurred in the number of deaths from Influenza (12), Tuberculosis of Lungs (8), Cancer (6), Cerebral Hæmorrhage (2), Bronchitis (5), Bright's Disease (4), Congenital Debility and Malformation (6), Suicide (3), and Violence (2).

The large decrease in deaths from Congenital Debility, etc., is a testimony to the Council's work amongst mothers and infants, including the work at the ante-natal clinic. Another satisfactory point is that there have been no deaths amongst children under two years of age from Diarrhœa in 1927 or 1928 and during the last ten years the number was six only.

The less number of deaths from Cancer is welcome, but this disease is still a formidable foe, for during the last ten years 138 persons have died from it in Heckmondwike. The death rate per 1,000 from Cancer for England and Wales for 1927 was 1·3, and for Heckmondwike 2·0. The 1928 figures for England and Wales are not yet available. Some progress in knowledge has been made recently, particularly in connection with treatment of Cancer by radium in certain parts of the body, but it is important the public should realise that the greatest hope lies in early detection of the disease, hence the importance of the family doctor being consulted immediately any suspicious symptoms are noted. At the commencement Cancer is essentially a local disease. So long as it remains local it can be

cured by surgical removal. This may be impossible if the disease has spread to other parts of the body.

Increases in Heckmondwike deaths during 1928 were principally caused by Heart Disease (7), Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases (3).

The Infantile Death Rate for Heckmondwike for 1928 was the remarkable figure of 21·7 per 1,000 births. This is easily a record and would be difficult to excel. That a busy industrial area should have such a state of affairs is most creditable, not only to the mothers, but also to the Council, and should be a source of satisfaction to all concerned. The Council's Health Visitor, Sister Shorter, undoubtedly deserves commendation, for no small part of this is due to her untiring work amongst the mothers and children in the town. Less than twenty years ago the infantile death rate for Heckmondwike was 162·6 per 1,000 births. It must not be expected that this low rate will continue indefinitely. Undoubtedly, there will be fluctuations, but meanwhile it is permissible to express satisfaction. Reference to the vital statistics table, which precedes this, will show the variations during the last 28 years both locally and nationally.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY LOCAL AUTHORITY OR BY COUNTY COUNCIL.

A. (1) Fever. Provided by a Joint Hospital Board, in which Heckmondwike is a partner. The Hospital is situated at Chickenley and contains 72 beds and 30 cots.

(2) Smallpox. Accommodation is also provided by the Joint Board. The number of beds is stated to be 18.

B. (1) Tuberculosis. The County Council is the Authority for treatment of this disease and provides various sanatoria.

(2) Maternity. None apart from the Poor Law. Complicated cases are sent to the several local hospitals. There is a Maternity Home in Heckmondwike, supported by voluntary contributions, fees from patients and Government Grant, administered by the Heckmondwike Nursing Association. The Heckmondwike Urban District Council is not in any way connected with this establishment, neither are any of the Council's Officers.

During 1928 the Registrar of Births reported the registration of the births of 82 infants born in the Home. Of these children the parents of 21 resided in Heckmondwike, and 61 did not reside in Heckmondwike. The figures since 1922 are:—

Year.	Heckmondwike residents.	Others.	Year.	Heckmondwike residents.	Others.
1922	23	50	1926	19	51
1923	15	56	1927	23	67
1924	18	54	1928	21	61
1925	35	41			

At a meeting of the Council on November 26th, 1928, the Sub-Committee appointed to confer with representatives from the Nursing Association with reference to the assistance of necessitous cases entering the Maternity Home reported thereon, and recommended that a Scheme for such assistance be adopted by the Council on the following lines:—

- (1) A payment of £2 7s. 0d. per week for a period of two weeks in respect of each case.
- (2) The Maternity Home to reserve a bed for the use of the Council at any time for a necessitous case.
- (3) All applications for admission to the Home as necessitous cases to be considered and decided upon by the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.
- (4) All applicants to be examined and approved by the Medical Officer of Health, and, subject to this approval, no objection to be taken to any person by the Nursing Association.
- (5) The Medical Officer of Health to have right of entry to the Maternity Home at all times.
- (6) The Council to provide three outfits for the use of mothers sent into the Home by them.
- (7) All applicants for assistance to attend the Council's Ante-Natal Clinic prior to admission to the Home.
- (8) The consent of the Ministry of Health to these terms to be first obtained.

It was resolved that such recommendation be approved.

(3) Children. The hospitals in adjoining towns, viz., Leeds, Bradford, Dewsbury, Batley. There is a partial subsidy at some of these for treatment of defects in school children who may reside in Heckmondwike. The West Riding County Council provides the money.

(4) Orthopædic. The preceding remarks apply.

(5) Other. None supported from the rates. Heckmondwike patients are admitted to the hospitals of Leeds, Bradford, Dewsbury and Batley. Apart from the Poor Law there is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the area.

Ambulance Facilities. (a) For infectious cases from the Joint Hospital Board. (b) For non-infectious cases and accident cases provided by a voluntary committee.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

	Address.	Sessions.	Day and Time of Meeting.	Arrangements for Medical Supervision.
Heckmondwike U.D. Council is the Authority for Maternity and Child Welfare.	George Street Sunday School, Heckmondwike.	For Maternity and Child Welfare Weekly.	Thursdays 2 to 4.	M.O.H. attends Weekly for Consultation.
	Public Health Department, Greenside, Heckmondwike	Ante and Post Natal Fortnightly	Wednesday Fortnightly 2 to 4.	Woman Asst. M.O.H. for Consultations.
	Day Nurseries	None		
County Council the Authority.	Public Health Department, Greenside, Heckmondwike	Daily School Clinic	Daily 9 a.m. 4 p.m.	County Council through its S.M.O. and the M.O.H. Heckmondwike.
	Tuberculosis Dispensary, Venereal Diseases Centres.	Outside the District		

Orthopædic and Artificial Light Treatment is obtained for Heckmondwike scholars at the hospitals previously mentioned. During 1928 the attendances of Heckmondwike residents at Venereal Disease Clinics were Dewsbury Infirmary, 16 males and 3 females; Bradford St. Luke's Hospital, 6 males and 2 females, and Leeds Infirmary, 1 male and 5 females.

Attendances at Infant Welfare Centre.

Year.	Number of Mothers on Register.	Mothers with Infants.	Average Attendance per Mother.
1920	99	1859	18
1921	285	2305	8
1922	203	1099	5
1923	135	1044	8
1924	216	1385	6
1925	126	1318	10
1926	136	1837	13
1927	114	1900	16
1928	116	2090	18

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1918.

Under this Order the Council has distributed dried milk, as follows. The years mentioned end March 31st:—

					£	s.	d.
1919	...	...	...	...	4	15	7
1920	...	...	...	...	9	11	10
1921	...	...	...	...	7	3	6
1922	...	...	...	...	76	16	10
1923	...	...	...	...	24	6	6
1924	...	...	...	...	9	10	0
1925	...	...	...	...	21	0	0
1926	...	...	...	...	16	5	8
1927	...	...	...	...	24	4	9
1928	...	...	...	...	7	7	10
1929	...	...	...	...	21	3	6

£222 6 0

Total Cost for 11 years £222 6 0

Average cost per year £20 4 2

The attendances at the Infant Welfare Centre are individually greater than shown above, but no record is kept of those mothers who attend without bringing their infants.

It would be an advantage if the Welfare Centre could be at the Council's Public Health Department. Reference has been previously made to this subject.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Individual patients attending Clinic	42	73	49	69
Patients found normal	7	19	6	39
Patients found suffering from one or more defects	35	54	43	30
Total number of attendances at Clinic	120	141	112	151

Defects Classified.

Respiratory system, excluding				
Tuberculosis	4	16	7	3
Circulatory system, excluding Vari-				
cose Veins	9	9	8	5
Digestive system, excluding Defec-				
tive Teeth and Constipation ...	4	15	25	Nil
Urinary system	7	19	9	15
Small or deformed Pelvis	2	3	3	Nil
Gynæcological defects, including				
Venereal Disease	6	2	Nil	Nil
Varicose Veins	8	17	11	10
Constipation	14	21	19	23
Defective Teeth	15	27	19	25
Miscellaneous	2	3	4	5

A number of written communications were sent to doctors respecting their patients examined at the Ante-Natal Clinic.

Midwives are welcomed and urged to bring their patients, to whom no fee is, of course, charged, whilst special care is taken to safeguard the midwife's position.

It has become the custom during 1928 for prospective mothers to be sent from the Maternity Home to the Ante-Natal Clinic for advice. This is a great advance upon former years, and is proving beneficial to these patients. It may be now taken that the Council's scheme for maternal welfare is functioning as originally intended, both locally and by the Ministry of Health. During the year Mrs. M. M. Thierens, M.B., Ch. B., resigned her position as part-time Assistant Medical Officer of Health, owing to her husband having been appointed Medical Officer of Health for Blackburn, and it being impossible for her to continue her duties at the Ante-Natal Clinic for geographical reasons. The removal of Mrs. Thierens was much regretted, her work at the clinic having been skilfully performed. She was succeeded by Mrs. H. A. Channon, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Work of Health Visitor during 1928:—

Ante-Natal—First Visits	...	...	...	52	
Re-Visits	...	...	...	39	
				<hr/>	91
Infants under 12 months—					
First Visits	...	...	...	121	
Re-Visits	...	...	...	1223	
				<hr/>	1344
Visits to Children—					
Between 12 months and 3 years	...	...	...	1104	
Between 3 and 5 years	...	...	...	1180	
				<hr/>	2284
Visits to cases of—					
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	29	
Pneumonia (notified)	...	...	...	2	
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	2	
Still Births	...	...	...	4	
Measles	...	...	...	9	
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	15	
Chicken-Pox	...	...	...	54	
Mumps	...	...	...	Nil	
				<hr/>	115
Total Visits	...	...	...		<hr/>
					3834

The above has no relationship to the work performed by Sister Shorter as School Nurse. In this capacity she made 328 visits to homes during 1928, in addition to daily work at the School Clinic and in the Schools. Reports are made to the Education Committee. This nurse's services are of very great value to the community, and the public appreciate her work. Her influence with the mothers is considerable. This facilitates the success of the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare work.

Notification of Births Act, 1907. Doctors notified 64, midwives 60, and other persons, no births, a total of 124 during 1928. Of these 5 were still births. Certain ladies, members of the Heckmondwike Nursing Association, have assisted in the voluntary work of the Welfare Centre as in former years, by providing tea, selling garments, dried milk, cod liver oil emulsion, etc.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

*G. H. Pearce, M.D., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law.

WOMAN ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER FOR MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE (part time).

*M. M. Thierens, M.B., Ch.B. (Resigned May, 1928).

*H. M. Channon, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H. (Appointed June, 1928).

HEALTH VISITOR AND SCHOOL NURSE.

*Ethel M. Shorter, 3 years' General Training Certificate; Certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

A. K. Greenwood.

*50% salary contribution is received from Exchequer Grants in respect of officers marked *.

The Medical Officer is also Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer for the adjoining Borough of Batley. The Health Visitor is directly employed by the Council as such, but the West Riding County Council pays the Heckmondwike Council an annual sum for her part time services as School Nurse under the County Council. The Sanitary Inspector is also Meat, Market, and Housing Inspector.

Professional Nursing in the Home. (a) General. This is provided by the Heckmondwike Nursing Association, a voluntary body, which employs one district nurse. There is also an independent nurse, who has practised on her own account for some years.

(b) For Infectious Disease, e.g., Measles, etc. There is none, as previously explained. Should the necessity arise it is probable a special nurse would be temporarily engaged by the Council for the purpose. The rules of the local nursing association do not provide for nursing infectious cases.

Midwives. The Local Authority does not employ or subsidise any midwife. One practises on her own account and one other is employed by and resident in the Maternity Home. She does district midwifery.

Registration of Maternity Homes. The Council is not a Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Act, but having regard to the fact that the Council is the Authority under the Notification of Births Act, 1907, and the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, and that the Medical Officer of Health is not engaged in general practice, it would appear fitting that the Council should make application to the County Council for the delegation of the County Council's powers under the Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926, to the Heckmondwike Urban District Council, and the recommendation is made herewith.

Maternal Mortality. The Medical Officer of Health is the person upon whom will fall the duty of investigating maternal deaths and cases of puerperal fever.

Adoptive Acts and By-laws.—The following are in force in Heckmondwike :—

	Parts or Sections in force.	Date of adoption.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890	Whole Act	1902
Infectious Disease Pre- vention Act, 1890	Whole Act	1908
Notification of Births Act, 1907	Whole Act	1909
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907	Sec. 51	1922

Heckmondwike Improvement Act, 1905.

By-law	Date.
Offensive Trades	1889
Prevention of Nuisances	1889
Common Lodging Houses	1889
New Streets and Buildings	1889
Slaughter-houses	1889
*Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order	1912
Hackney Carriages	1889
Baths and Wash-houses	1902
Markets and Fairs	1869
Pleasure Grounds	1923
New Streets and Buildings	1926
Heckmondwike Urban (Offensive Trade) Confirmation Order	1929

* Superseded by the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

In my opinion it is desirable that consideration be given to those portions of the Public Health Act, 1925, which are adoptive, in view of the possibility of their use locally. The same applies to bye-laws respecting Tents, Vans, and Sheds, difficulty occasionally arising through persons inhabiting such structures.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. Heckmondwike is a partner with Dewsbury in the water undertaking controlled by a Joint Board, which consists of members of both Councils. The supply is of excellent quality. There has been some discussion during recent years about the desirability of constructing an additional reservoir, but nothing definite has transpired. So far as Heckmondwike is concerned, there is no necessity for increased supply. The Council's water engineer, Mr. Littlewood, informs me, "No extensions have been made to the water mains during 1928, but it has been necessary to renew short lengths of existing mains which have been down between fifty and sixty years."

Rivers and Streams. The Spen Beck runs through Heckmondwike, and is polluted by dye waters and some trade effluent. The authority for supervision is the West Riding Rivers Board.

Drainage and Sewerage. The Surveyor, Mr. Littlewood, informs me, "Application has been made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to borrow £11,000 for alterations and additions to the Sewage Works on Dewsbury Moor.

"In addition to increased Settling Tank capacity, it is proposed to build two new Filters, which will treat an additional 680,940 gallons per day, and we shall then have filtering capacity of 250,000 gallons in excess of our immediate requirements, which will provide a good margin for future developments.

"No trouble is now experienced with the Outfall Sewer, and the Storm Water Overflow at Smithies has not been in operation since the Outfall Sewer was cleaned out."

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, 1928.

No. of Privies with open Middens ...	...	...	9	
No. of Pail or Tub Closets ...	...	...	2	
No. of Privies with covered Middens ...	...	...	42	
			<hr/>	53
No. of Water Closets ...	...	...	2379	
No. of Waste Water Closets ...	...	...	152	
			<hr/>	2531

No. of Privies and Pail Closets reconstructed during 1928:—

(a) As W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	2
(b) Others	...	...	...	...	None.
No. of Privies abolished	...	...	...	...	4
No. of Closets constructed for New Houses, 1928	...	...	...	...	4
No. of additional W.C.'s provided for old property in 1928	...	...	...	...	1
No. of Trough W.C.'s converted to modern type	...	...	...	...	12
No. of Slop W.C.'s converted to modern type	...	...	...	...	2

It is very desirable that, where possible, the remaining privies, trough and slop closets be abolished without delay.

Scavenging. The following information is provided by the Surveyor:—

“Satisfactory results have been obtained from the Refuse Destructor during the year, but rather extensive repairs have been necessary to the fire brick lining of the furnaces; and it is my intention, in the near future, to ask the Council to extend the Destructor works and to provide two new furnaces, to be used when the existing ones are closed for repairs. At the present time, it is difficult to dispose of the domestic refuse during the time the Destructor is closed down, as there are no Quarries and very little low-lying land in the District which can be used for tipping purposes.”

The Ministry of Health has been paying particular attention to methods and costs of scavenging throughout the country during recent years, and it is thought that the following table for Heckmondwike may be of interest:—

Year.	Loads to Destructor.	Loads to Tips.	Total annual cost.	Total metal bins.	Fixed brick receptacles.	Middens.
			£ s. d.			
1916	3901	549	968 0 0	705	—	—
1917	2503	646	1017 0 0	703	—	—
1918	2637	894	1228 0 0	705	—	—
1919	3105	987	1851 0 0	711	—	—
1920	3444	805	2071 0 0	730	332	—
1921	2728	1216	2000 0 0	776	323	—
1922	1645	2277	2000 0 0	1033	267	91
1923	2209	1310	2221 14 0	1164	258	67
1924	3356	282	2220 0 0	1359	224	55
1925	3253	160	2205 6 10	1472	215	47
1926	3392	36	2212 4 7	1661	194	42
1927	3399	139	2200 0 0	1719	192	38
1928	3360	252	2727 0 0	1745	189	36

It is desirable, where possible, that the number of fixed brick receptacles and middens be reduced to the absolute minimum at the earliest date. The Surveyor points out that 421 loads of trade refuse were burned in addition to domestic refuse. Last year I made the following remarks:—

“In many towns trade refuse is only removed by the Local Authority on payment by the person producing it. Whether the general body of ratepayers should be charged for services of this nature rendered to particular tradesmen, or whether a tradesman should be responsible for getting rid of his trade refuse either by arrangement with the Council, or otherwise, is a matter which would appear to be a proper one for consideration.”

The dust-bins are emptied weekly, and the ashpits monthly, a Morris 30cwt. wagon being employed for the former, and a Ford ton wagon for the latter. From the destructor, 1,143 loads of clinker were taken to the New North Road tip. It is usual for a one-cell destructor to successfully destroy the domestic refuse for a population of ten thousand. The Heckmondwike destructor consists of two cells. Modern methods of tipping, on the lines successfully followed at Bradford, are much cheaper than the use of destructors, and provided the proper procedure is carefully followed, the method is simple in operation and hygienically efficient.

WORK OF SANITARY INSPECTOR UNDER ARTICLE 19 (12) OF THE SANITARY OFFICERS' ORDER, 1922.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT YEAR 1928.

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS.

Re Nuisances	...	...	...	...	858
„ Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	75
„ Bakehouses and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	153
„ Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	130
„ Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	22
„ Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	70
„ Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	30
„ Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	298
Total					1636

NATURE OF INSPECTIONS.

Choked W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	5
Defective and Choked Drains	...	...	...	...	17
Defective Privies and Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	10
Manure Accumulations	...	...	...	...	24
Defective Dry Ash Places	...	...	...	...	9
Defective Metal Bins	...	...	...	...	49
Insufficient Metal Bins	...	...	...	...	4
Defective W.C. Apparatus	...	...	...	...	1
Insufficient W.C. Accommodation	...	...	...	...	3
Defective Trough W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Vent Shafts	...	...	...	...	3
Defective Yard Paving	...	...	...	...	2
Total					129

SERVICE OF NOTICES.

Informal Notices served	...	...	...	103
Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	101
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	1
Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	1
Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1927				26
Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1928				23
Total No. of Nuisances reported during 1928	...			103
Total No. of Nuisances abated during 1928	...			106
Legal Proceedings respecting Nuisances			...	None

Smoke Abatement. Heckmondwike suffers to a considerable extent through pollution of the atmosphere by smoke. Some is produced within, and perhaps more without, the Urban District. In any event, there is no excuse for existing conditions, and much improvement is easily possible with great benefit to the inhabitants and financial gain to manufacturers. Regular observations by the Sanitary Inspector and consideration of his reports by the Sanitary Committee have previously been advised. The recommendation is again made.

The West Riding of Yorkshire Regional Smoke Abatement Committee comprises more than one hundred constituent authorities, of which the Heckmondwike Urban District Council is one. The Committee agreed to fall in with the wishes of the Ministry of Health and recommended the Ministry's model bye-law for adoption throughout the area with the added recommendation that as far as possible the various authorities endeavour to work to a common definition of black smoke. Formal objections were lodged by the Bradford Dyers' Association and several other bodies. The Minister held a public enquiry at Bradford, at which evidence in favour of the proposed bye-law was given by the Medical Officer of Health for Heckmondwike, amongst others. On November 26th, 1928, the Minister allowed the bye-law with the following reservations:—"That the emission of black smoke for a period less than three minutes in the aggregate within any continuous period of thirty minutes shall be presumed to be a nuisance." Originally the period mentioned was two minutes. During the year the Sanitary Inspector made four observations, and three informal notices were served.

**PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE
CONTROLLED BY BY-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.**

Common Lodging House. There is one, which generally is kept in good condition. The present manager and his wife appear to do all they can to carry out the suggestions made to them by the Medical Officer of Health or the Sanitary Inspector.

During the small-pox outbreak, these persons were helpful in giving useful information about various lodgers and their movements. By-laws respecting houses let in lodgings, or Regulations in respect of underground sleeping rooms [Housing Act, 1925, Section 18(1)], do not at present appear to be needed. By-laws respecting Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc., would be desirable, there being a proportion of persons to whom they apply.

Slaughter-houses.

Total number of Slaughter-houses	...	...	5
Registered	...	...	4
Licensed	...	...	1
Total number of Inspections	...	...	298

The Co-operative Society owns a modern slaughter-house, which during the war was used as a public abattoir for the district with much success. The four registered slaughter-houses are undesirable and do not comply with the suggestions laid down in the Model By-laws. The day of the small private slaughter-house has passed, and in the interests of the public such places should be abolished whenever the opportunity arises.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Tripe Boiling	...	...	3
Fat Melting	...	...	3
Bone Boiling	...	...	4
Gut Scraping	...	...	1
Fellmongering	...	...	1
Total number of Inspections	...	...	75

There are occasional complaints of foul smells in connection with these premises, but generally speaking they are kept in a reasonably hygienic condition considering all the circumstances. During the year further consideration was given to the scheduling of the trade of a fish frier as an offensive one. At the time of writing intimation has been received from the Ministry of Health that the Heckmondwike Council's Order dated February 1st, 1929, declaring the trade or business of a Fish Frier within the District to be an offensive trade has been confirmed, that the Order may be cited as the Heckmondwike Urban (Offensive Trade) Confirmation Order, 1929, and shall come into operation on the 18th March, 1929. The adoption of by-laws should now be completed, it is hoped, in the near future.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

No. of Cowsheds	...	...	6
Milch Cows (Approximate No.)	...	...	58
No. of Cowkeepers	...	...	3
No. of Cowkeepers who are also Milk Purveyors	...	...	2
No. of Milk Purveyors only	...	...	23
No. of Dairies on Register	...	...	8
No. of Inspections of Cowsheds	...	...	32
No. of Inspections of Dairies	...	...	38

The structural conditions of the cowsheds have not yet been brought into compliance with the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, so far as such is possible. This is very desirable in the interests of those ratepayers who purchase and consume milk produced locally. The subject has been previously mentioned.

BAKEHOUSES AND RESTAURANTS.

Number of Bakehouses on Register	...	...	12
Number of Restaurants on Register	...	...	3
Total number of Inspections	...	...	153

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

Total number of Fried Fish Shops on Register	...	...	19
Total number of Inspections	...	...	130

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

Number of Premises Registered for the Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	15
Number of Premises Registered for Sale of Ice Cream only	...	...	...	3
Number of Persons Registered for the Sale of Ice Cream by Barrow	...	...	...	6
Total number of Inspections	...	...	...	22

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. It is probable that the majority of Heckmondwike residents are not aware that under this Act any person who shall fail to take such steps as may from time to time be necessary and reasonably practicable for the destruction of rats and mice on or in any land of which he is the occupier, or for preventing such land from becoming infested with rats or mice, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five pounds, or where he has been served with a notice under this Act requiring him to take such steps, not exceeding twenty pounds. The expression "land" includes any building and any other erection on land, and any cellar, sewer, drain, or culvert, in or under land. Rat weeks are held annually throughout the country. In Heckmondwike appropriate advice can be obtained from the Sanitary Inspector.

Arrangements for Disposal of the Dead are at present adequate, the Heckmondwike Cemetery being the property of the Council. Since cremation is becoming commoner than formerly and its advantages from the hygienic standpoint over earth burial are so pronounced, it is desirable that in any necessary future extension this matter should not be overlooked.

For many years complaints have occasionally been made as to the necessity of a mortuary. The Council has often been blamed wrongfully by the Coroner, doctors, and others, for failing to provide, when further information would have shown the corpse was found lying outside the Urban District. A very well equipped mortuary has now been constructed adjoining the Council's depôt for the use of Heckmondwike only. It is expected adjoining towns may be accommodated on payment should they so desire.

Schools. The West Riding County Council is the Education Authority in Heckmondwike. The new school clinic continues to be appreciated by mothers on behalf of their children who may need to be treated there. During the year the attendances of scholars at this Clinic numbered 3,418.

Health Education. A Health Week has been held annually in Heckmondwike since 1924, excepting 1925. This year a new departure was made. The Council engaged for one week Mr. T. Bowen Partington, who gave addresses at places of worship, clubs, works, picture palaces, where films were exhibited, and in the streets. He was usually accompanied by a Member of the Council, who presided, and supported by other Councillors, the Medical Officer of Health, Sanitary Inspector, and others interested in public health. Nineteen meetings were held, and over three thousand persons attended. A facsimile of the programme is attached to the last page of this report. The journal "Better Health" is purchased by the Council for free distribution monthly as in the previous years. It is eagerly looked forward to and appreciated by those who receive it free of charge at clinics, welfare centre, clubs, schools, library, etc. Much of the success of the Health Week was due, as in former years, to the good work done by Mr. Greenwood, Sanitary Inspector, in fixing up local arrangements and otherwise.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928. No samples were taken. In any event uncertainty has existed as to what is actually rag flock. This has now been decided by the 1928 Act. The Sanitary Inspector was designated by resolution during the year as an officer appointed to take samples on behalf of the Council.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1928, for the Urban District
of Heckmondwike, on the Administration of the Factory
and Workshops Act, 1901, in connection with
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.**

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces,
including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector
of Nuisances:—

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	38	3	Nil
Workshops (including Work- shop Laundries)	164	Nil	Nil
Workplaces (other than Out- workers' premises)	142	Nil	Nil
Total	344	3	Nil

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			No. of offences in respect to which Pro- secutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under Public Health Acts:—				
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors ...	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances:—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommoda- tion:—				
{ Insufficient.				
{ Unsuitable or				
{ Defective.	1	1	—	—
{ Not separate				
{ for sexes.	2	2	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts:—				
Illegal occupation of under- ground Bakehouses (S. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences:—				
[Excluding offences relating to outworkers and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921] ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	4	4	Nil.	Nil.

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at December 31st, 1928

Plasterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Rag Sorting	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Boot Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Breadmaking	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Millinery and Dressmaking	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Tailoring	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Waste Sorting	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbing and Electricians	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Joiners, Cabinet Makers, Wood Carvers and Upholsterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tinplate Working	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Watch Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Painters	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Rug Making	1
Saddlery	3
Basket Making	2
Restaurant Kitchens	3
Various	21

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HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total [including numbers given separately under (b)]	4
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:						
(1) By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	None
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	1

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	93
(2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	54
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	34

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	27
---	--------	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	None
---	--------	------

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners	None
---------------	--------	------

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	None
---	--------	------

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	None
--	--------	------

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	34
--	--------	----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners	None
---------------	--------	------

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	None
---	--------	------

C. Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925:—

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	1
--	--------	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
--	--------	---

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	None
--	--------	------

(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	None
---	--------	------

(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	None
--	--------	------

The condition of many of the older houses cannot be described as good, and is detrimental to the health of the occupants. Such defects as dampness, leaking roofs, insufficient ventilation, and general dilapidations are fairly common. In the interest of the health and well being of those who tenant them it is desirable pressure be brought to bear upon landlords who neglect or refuse to render these houses in all respects reasonably fit for habitation.

The representation of the Medical Officer of Health was that a cellar dwelling, part of a dwelling-house, 6, Sharp Street, was in a state so dangerous and injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. The Council made a Closing Order under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1925. The tenant of the house had let the cellar as a separate dwelling, and was receiving the rent paid by the tenant of the cellar.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

No. of Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	6
Milch Cows (Approximate No.)	...	...	...	...	58
No. of Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	3
No. of Cowkeepers who are also Milk Purveyors	...	...	...	...	2
No. of Milk Purveyors only	...	...	...	...	23
No. of Dairies on Register	...	...	...	...	8
No. of Inspections of Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	32
No. of Inspections of Dairies	...	...	...	...	38

The following licences to sell graded milk in Heckmondwike were issued during the year.—Edward Haley, Charles Worth, Arthur Garnett, Certified Milk; and Frank Smith, “ Grade A ” Milk. The demand for milk free from the germs of tuberculosis and filth continues to increase and is met by the provision of Certified Milk.

The quarterly reports of the Council’s Veterinary Surgeon are as follows:—

23rd March, 1928.

Dr. Pearce,

Sir,—I have again the pleasure of submitting my Report of the Inspection this week of the Milk Cows in your area.

Hunter’s.—General condition satisfactory, also from a tubercular point of view the udders are quite satisfactory. One cow suffering from an enlarged quarter of udder due to damaged teat.

Hodgson’s.—General condition of these cows satisfactory. This applies also to the udders.

Lund's.—General conditions of these cows now satisfactory. No reasonable grounds for complaint with the exception of one—a Jersey. The udders satisfactory except this Jersey cow (mentioned in previous report). I have notified this cow to the County Authority as suffering from tuberculosis of the udder. No clinical signs of this at the December inspection. Brindled cow enlarged quarter due to injured teat. The above cow (Jersey) is the only case to my knowledge (up to date) reported under the Tuberculosis Order in your area this year.

GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

Veterinary Inspector.

18th June, 1928.

I have again the pleasure of submitting a report of my inspection this month of Milk Cows in your area.

Cave (late Hunter's), 25.—The general condition and udders of these cows quite satisfactory.

Hodgson, 13.—The general condition and udders of these cows quite satisfactory. Two cows (healthy) not so full of flesh as the rest.

Lund, 8.—The general condition and udders of seven cows satisfactory. The brindled cow named in a previous report as low in flesh, to-day is looking very well. Jersey cow named in June, September and December reports 1927, and March of this year is very thin. On my March inspection, finding well defined nodules in quarter of udder (not recognised in December inspection), I reported this cow under the Tuberculosis Order. The cow was inspected by the County Inspector and restrictions placed upon her. Milk submitted to a biological test proving negative tuberculosis the restrictions then withdrawn. To me, to-day, the nodules are bigger. A post-mortem will be interesting.

GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

27th Sept., 1928.

I have again the pleasure of submitting my report of my inspection this month of the Milk Cows in your area.

Cave (late Hunter).—General condition of these cows is satisfactory. One cow small induration of udder due to an injury.

Hodgson.—General condition of these cows satisfactory. The cows' udders are satisfactory.

Lund.—General condition of these cows satisfactory if we except the Jersey mentioned in previous reports, and this cow is slightly better in condition, due, I presume, to grass feeding. The cows' udders are satisfactory. Respecting the udder of the Jersey cow I confirm the previous report of June, 1928. You are aware of the biological test in this case.

GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

25th Dec., 1928.

I have again the pleasure of submitting a report of the inspection of Milk Cows in your area:—

Cave (late Hunter).—The general condition of the cows on this farm and the cows' udders, quite satisfactory.

Hodgson's.—The general condition of the cows on this farm and the cows' udders, quite satisfactory.

Lund's.—There is a decided improvement in the general condition of this man's cows, one can say now satisfactory, also cows' udders. The Jersey cow named in previous reports and from which you are aware a sample of milk was tested (biological) was killed a few weeks ago and disposed of to the Knackers.

GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

On the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, becoming operative, the West Riding County Council became the Authority for Veterinary Inspection of Dairy Cattle. The reports of the inspections by the Chief Veterinary Officer are as follows:—

Veterinary Department,
County Hall,
Wakefield,
9th March, 1928.

The Medical Officer of Health,
Heckmondwike.

Dear Sir,—I beg to inform you that Mr. Ross, Assistant Veterinary Inspector, yesterday inspected the cows in the Heckmondwike Urban District area. Mr. Ross visited 3 farms and inspected 49 cows, taking one sample of milk for bacteriological examination.

He reported the class of cows as good with the exception of those of Mr. Lund, Cawley Hill Farm, which are not up to the same standard as those on the other two farms. The cleanliness of the cows is good and there has been a distinct improvement in this respect in the case of Cawley Hill Farm.

I understand Mr. Whitehead is still continuing his inspection in this area. I shall be glad to know if this is so, in which case it seems unnecessary for me to arrange quarterly inspections, as I was under the impression that Mr. Whitehead had ceased his duties in the Heckmondwike area.

Yours faithfully,

D. S. RABAGLIATI,
Chief Veterinary Inspector.

Veterinary Dept.,
County Hall,
Wakefield,
9th October, 1928.

Dr. Pearce,

Dear Sir,—I beg to inform you that Mr. Ross, Assistant Veterinary Officer, made an inspection of the three registered farms in the Heckmondwike Urban District, in company with your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Greenwood.

Mr. Ross examined 52 cows, but took no samples of milk. He reports that the cows are in good order, although the Jersey cow, the property of Mr. Lund, of Cawley Farm, is in somewhat poor condition. As the milk from this animal was recently tested for tuberculosis and proved negative, I do not think that any further action need be taken.

The condition of the premises is satisfactory, and I note that improvements have been made in the lighting of Mr. Lund's cowshed.

Yours faithfully,

D. S. RABAGLIATTI.

(b) Meat, etc.

The Sanitary Inspector is Meat and Markets Inspector. He reports monthly to the Sanitary Committee upon his work as Meat Inspector. The Medical Officer of Health has, on various occasions during the year, examined carcasses and organs in slaughter-houses when doubt arose as to whether there was disease or otherwise.

MEAT REGULATIONS.

Slaughter-houses.

Total number of Slaughter-houses	...	...	5
Registered	...	...	4
Licensed	...	...	1
Total number of Inspections	...	...	298
Number of Regular Notices of Slaughter received			55
Number of Occasional Notices of Slaughter received			729

	Number of		Number of
	Animals Slaughtered.		Carcasses Inspected.
Cattle	...	897	892
Sheep	...	2687	2621
Swine	...	1451	1339
Other (Calves)	...	53	43
		<hr/> 5088	<hr/> 4895

MEAT INSPECTION—SUMMARY OF UNSOUND MEAT SURRENDERED.

				Lbs.
Whole Carcase and Offal of Heifer.	Tuberculosis	...	...	690
Whole Offal of 3 Beasts.	Tuberculosis	...	...	248
15 Beasts' Livers.	Parasitic	...	...	222½
25 Beasts' Lungs.	Tuberculosis	...	...	235
2 Beasts' Heads.	Tuberculosis	...	...	60
22 Sheeps' Livers.	Parasitic	...	...	39
Portions of Carcases of 3 Pigs.	Tuberculosis	...	...	109
Heads, Livers, Lungs, etc., of 48 Pigs.	Tuberculosis	...	...	600½
3 Pigs' Livers.	Cirrhosis	...	...	14
				<hr/> 2218
Two Bags of Mussels.				224
Two Tins Pressed Beef.				12
				<hr/> 2454 <hr/>

T. cwt. qr. lbs.

Total Weight of Unsound Food destroyed ... 1 1 3 18

On several occasions it was necessary to warn butchers respecting breaches of the Meat Regulations. In July the Council, on the report of the Medical Officer of Health, instructed the Clerk to write to four butchers who occupy stalls in the market, with reference to their failure to observe the requirements of the above Regulations, and informing them that, if any further breach occurred, proceedings would be commenced against the offender.

(c) Adulteration, etc. This subject has been referred to in previous annual reports, and the desirability of the Local Sanitary Inspector taking samples for analysis was specially mentioned last year. At a meeting of the Council on July 9th, the following resolution of the Sanitary Committee was confirmed:—

“ Resolved that the Sanitary Inspector be requested to take samples of commodities under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts for analysis.”

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food will be made when the former resolution becomes operative, but, up to the present, no laboratory work of this nature has been undertaken directly on behalf of the Council, the County Council, as previously explained, acting in the Heckmondwike area.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1928.

Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified.				NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED 1928.										Total Cases removed to Hospital.				
NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.				At Ages—Years.										Total Cases removed to Hospital.				
				At all Ages.														
1910 to 1914	1915 to 1919	1920 to 1924	1925 to 1927	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	1928	1927	1926	1925	1920 to 1924	1915 to 1919	1910 to 1914	
381																		
5			1		1			3	1		5	1						
3		7	8															
2																		
35		4	1		1		1	2	2		1	1					54	
23		7	4								1							
58		19	13		3	12		1			13	9	7	19	25	21	27	
5		8														5	7	

* Males, 3; Females, Nil. + Males, Nil; Females, 2.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL DEATHS FROM NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES UNDER AGE GROUPS.

		Under 1		1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over
Tuberculosis (Lungs) do.														

Smallpox, although very prevalent in the West Riding of Yorkshire, was experienced in Heckmondwike to the extent of five cases only. The first patient, a woman, aged 34, was notified on March 3rd. She was unvaccinated. The source of infection was not absolutely established, but it was probably introduced by a man who had visited her house from a public institution where smallpox had occurred in another town. The second patient was a male child, aged 8, who was unvaccinated. He had been ill for ten days before notification. The source of infection was believed to be in a neighbouring town where smallpox was prevalent, infection being conveyed through relatives. The third and fourth patients were a female child, aged 4 years 11 months, and a woman, aged 27, both being notified on May 12th, and both unvaccinated. The infection was believed to have been contracted in a neighbouring town where they had been in contact with smallpox. The last case was notified on July 28th, the patient being a man of 24 and unvaccinated. The source of infection was not established, but he had visited other towns where the disease existed and probably caught it there.

All cases were immediately removed to hospital, and all recovered, although not entirely without some disfigurement. The usual steps were taken to disinfect houses, provide disinfecting baths for contacts, together with disinfection of their clothing, tracing contacts, who were kept under supervision for sixteen days, etc. The Medical Officer of Health was called in consultation on many occasions by doctors who were in attendance upon cases of chicken-pox and other doubtful conditions. There were 48 known contacts in Heckmondwike, to whom 812 visits of supervision were made. Other contacts outside Heckmondwike were notified to their respective districts. Seventy-seven contacts and sub-contacts were vaccinated by the Medical Officer of Health or Public Vaccinator. Many other residents were vaccinated by private doctors. Ten contacts refused vaccination, but all had been vaccinated or re-vaccinated at previous times. The Medical Officer desires to place on record the very great assistance rendered to him by the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Greenwood) in tracing contacts and persuading them to be vaccinated.

Measles caused no trouble during the year, the epidemic of 1927 having ceased in October, and nothing further occurred beyond one or two isolated cases which recovered quickly.

Acute Primary or Acute Influenzal Pneumonia was notified on two occasions only. As pointed out in previous years the requirements of these Regulations are not complied with by practitioners. An example of this fact is that during 1928 six deaths were certified to be caused by pneumonia and there were other non-fatal cases.

Diphtheria was only notified once. This was so the previous year and not at all during 1926. For an industrial area like Heckmondwike to only have two notifications of this disease in three years is worthy of remark. As stated in last year's report: "strict supervision is kept over scholars in the elementary schools with frequent throat swabbings where such appear desirable. Probably this has no small influence in the matter, but, doubtless, there are other factors unknown for which allowance must be made. Whatever the cause, the facts are very pleasing. Diphtheria Antitoxin is supplied by the Council to medical practitioners on request, free of charge."

Erysipelas was notified seven times, all recovered.

Scarlet Fever occasioned sixteen notifications. One patient was an adult, the remainder were children. The type was mild. No particular comment is called for.

Enteric Fever has been absent from Heckmondwike for four successive years, which testifies to the much improved health of the community. There was one case of para-typhoid fever. The patient was a boy, who, it was stated, had been in the habit of eating food, particularly shellfish, picked up from under stalls in the public market. This undesirable habit was likely to act to his detriment in any case, but it being a fact that raw shellfish from sewage-polluted beds is often infected, the evidence was in favour of the boy having contracted his illness through his own habits. He was removed to hospital and recovered in due course.

Encephalitis Lethargica was certified as the cause of a man's death, but as the notification was not received until after death and the history was that of a very short illness, with no further information obtainable, there is reasonable doubt in the matter.

Puerperal Pyrexia was notified on two occasions, both patients being resident in the Maternity Home. The position was similar to the previous year. No case of Puerperal Fever was notified.

Facilities are provided at the County Council Laboratories, Wakefield, for the examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens. The figures for the year 1928 are Widal 9, Sputa 9, Diphtheria 18, Miscellaneous 18, a total of 54.

Contacts are searched for in school or at home when necessary. Isolation is possible, to a modified degree, at the Dewsbury Joint Isolation Hospital for patients who suffer from Smallpox, Diphtheria, Enteric and Scarlet Fevers only. Disinfection is done by the Council's disinfecting staff in the homes, and at the Batley Disinfecting Station, where a modern steam apparatus is installed. Where the latter process is necessary payment is made by the Heckmondwike Council.

So far as the Medical Officer of Health is aware, no use has officially been made of the tests known as the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively or of the recently developed artificial methods of immunisation against these diseases, but serum treatment has been tried in several cases of Scarlet Fever by general practitioners, who have reported favourably.

The Medical Officer of Health vaccinated or re-vaccinated a number of smallpox contacts under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulation, 1917.

Non-notifiable infectious diseases become known to the Medical Officer of Health principally through the agency of Head Teachers and the School Attendance Officer. Such cases are visited at home by the School Nurse, whose services are of great value in this respect. The Medical Officer of Health is not School Medical Officer.

Influenza was not prevalent to an extent calling for unusual notice, the few cases being sporadic.

YEAR 1928.

Table shewing relationship between domestic conditions of persons under 15, and incidence of notifiable disease.

Notifiable diseases	Less than 1 person per room		1 to 2 persons per room		More than 2 persons per room	
	Previously Attacked	Not Previously Attacked	Previously Attacked	Not Previously Attacked	Previously Attacked	Not Previously Attacked
Smallpox	2	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	1	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	5	...	8	...	2
Pneumonia
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	...	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	...	...
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1
Para Typhoid B	1	...	...

YEAR 1928.

Attack rates per thousand persons under 15, not known to have had a previous attack.

Notifiable Diseases.	Less than 1 person per room.	1 to 2 persons per room.	More than 2 persons per room.
Smallpox	—	0·2	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	0·1	—	—
Scarlet Fever	0·5	0·9	0·2
Pneumonia	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	0·1	0·3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	0·1	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	0·1
Para Typhoid B	—	0·1	—

These tables are compiled in accordance with the suggestion in Circular 540 of the Ministry of Health.

Prevention of Blindness.—No action has been taken under Section 66, Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes, the local facilities appearing to be sufficient.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Year.	CASES.				Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Death.
	Notified.	Treated.						
		At Home.	In Hospital.					
1928	4	3	1	3	1	None	None	
Total 1914 to 1927	50	48	2	47	1	None	2	

TUBERCULOSIS IN HECKMONDWIKE, 1928.

Age periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
35	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	1

The following Table shows the relationship between date of notification and date of death of all persons in Heckmondwike who were certified to have died from Tuberculosis between January 1st, 1913, and December 31st, 1928. It is a guide to the extent to which the requirements as to notification of Tuberculosis are observed by medical practitioners:—

Death before notification	11	Death 6 months after ...	2
Death 1 month or under		Death 7 months after ...	2
after notification ...	11	Death 8 months after ...	Nil.
Death 2 months after ...	4	Death 9 months after ...	1
Death 3 months after ...	1	Death 10 months after ...	2
Death 4 months after ...	7	Death 11 months after ...	Nil.
Death 5 months after ...	3	Death 12 months and over	19

The ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths during 1928 was 1 to 3, or 33·3%.

The Regulations respecting notification of Tuberculosis are not strictly observed by practitioners, as the table shows. The County Council is the Authority for the treatment of the disease.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)
REGULATIONS, 1925.**

No action was taken or called for under these Regulations during 1928.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

This section refers to the compulsory removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The West Riding County Council is the Authority responsible for the provision of hospital accommodation for persons suffering from Tuberculosis. There are cases where such is very desirable, though not provided, partly because there are not sufficient beds available and partly because Tubercular patients often refuse hospital treatment.

All the adoptive portions of this Act would be useful if in force in Heckmondwike, and the recommendation that such be considered is again made.

HOUSING CONDITIONS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Year.	Notifica- tions		Type of House			Occupants									Houses with more than one Patient Notified	Rooms						Bedrooms				Sleeping Accommodation for Patients				
	M.	F	B. to B.	Single	Through	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 and over	1		2	3	4	5	6 and over	0	1	2	3	4 and over	Separate Room	Shared Room	Separate Bed	Shared Bed	
1928	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	
Totals 1921 to 1927	42	37	43	3	33	4	12	16	14	13	7	6	7	4	10	26	17	12	5	9	2	3	2	3	10	4	15	64	23	56

The Boots for the Bairns Fund, founded several years since and administered under the authority of the Council through voluntary subscriptions, has provided Heckmondwike children during 1928 with 185 pairs of boots, 59 pairs of clogs, 318 pairs of stockings, and 35 other garments.

In conclusion, it is once again pleasing to record the fact that during the year the Council has, on every occasion, sympathetically considered all recommendations made by the Medical Officer of Health and taken all practicable steps, where possible, to improve the public health, as is the Council's custom. Thanks are expressed to the members and officials for their courtesy and assistance.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

March, 1929.



HECKMONDWIKE HEALTH CAMPAIGN, 1928.

“Self-Help in Health.”

With the object of again focussing public attention on matters of health, and to arouse that sense of personal responsibility for health, without which all public work, whether by the Government or Local Authorities, must fall far short of its aims, the District Council has arranged the following Programme:---

Sunday, November 18th,
Picture Palace, Croft Street,
MEETING FOR MEN ONLY.

ADDRESS BY
Mr. T. BOWEN PARTINGTON,
“SEX AND MORALITY.”

Illustrated by Films.
Chair to be taken at 3 p.m., by
Fred Kershaw, Esq., J.P.
Supported by Members of the Urban District Council.

Methodist Free Church,
Special Health Service at 6 p.m.
Preacher: Mr. T. Bowen Partington.

SUBJECT:

“Our Duty to the Unborn.”

Representatives of Public Bodies are invited to meet at the Council Offices at 5.30, to accompany Councillors to the Service.

Picture Palace, Croft Street,
ADDRESS BY
Mr. T. BOWEN PARTINTON.
“Good Health: How to Keep It.”

Illustrated by Films.
Chair to be taken at 8.15 p.m., by
Fred Kershaw, Esq., J.P.
Supported by Members of the Urban District Council.

Monday, November 19th,
1 p.m.
DINNER HOUR ADDRESS at Messrs. T. F. Firth and Sons, Ltd., Flush Mills.
7.30 p.m.,
Brighton Street Working Men's Club.
8 p.m.,
Longfield Working Men's Club.
8.45 p.m.,
Moorend Working Men's Club.

Mr. T. Bowen Partington will Address all the above Meetings.

A Lecture will be given in the Co-operative Hall,
Mr. T. BOWEN PARTINGTON
BY
Entitled: “**The Road to Health.**”

ILLUSTRATED BY LANTERN SLIDES.

CHAIR TO BE TAKEN AT 8 P.M. BY **FRED KERSHAW, Esq., J.P.**
Supported by Members of the Urban District Council.

Senior & Co., Ltd., Printers, “Herald” Office, Cheapside, Heckmondwike.

Tuesday, November 20th,
1 p.m.,
Dinner Hour Address at C.W.S. Boot Works, Thomas Street.
8 p.m.,
Back Lane Working Men's Club.
8.30 p.m.,
Comrades Club, Regent Street.

Wednesday, November 21st,
10.30 a.m.,
Picture Palace, Croft Street,
Film Exhibition for School Children.

1 p.m.,
Dinner Hour Address at Spen Vale Mills.
Parish Church Schools, Church St.
Address to Mothers' Union at 3 p.m.
“Women and Problems of Health.”
7-30 p.m.,
British Legion Headquarters, Market Street.

Thursday, November 22nd,
1 p.m.,
Dinner Hour Address at
Walkley Mills, Orchard Dyeworks, &c.
3 p.m.,
Child Welfare Centre, George Street Lecture Room.
“Maternal Mortality.”
7 p.m.,
Co-operative Women's Guild, Minor Hall.
“What every Woman should know.”
8 p.m.,
Headquarters Toc H, Oldfield Lane.

Friday, November 23rd,
1 p.m.,
Meeting in the Market Place.
Mr. T. Bowen Partington will Address all the above Meetings.

